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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

When I was a boy, monopolies were illegal. Now they seem to be the goal of whatever government oversight remains, and small, local Telecom providers are in danger as a result.

I get my Internet service from a local provider and community network, and have done so since the early 1990s. The prospect of that provider being overrun by deregulation favoring the Big Telecom companies not only bodes ill for that local business, but will mean nearly thirty years of tangible advertising on my part (thousands of business cards for my piano service out there, all with my same local email address listed) will become invalid. My telephone service is via a VoIP connection with the same local provider. I switched from AT&T because of hideously inflated rates and the impossibility of getting through their voicemail menus to real service personnel. With the local company, I can still get immediate assistance. Without the competition from local providers, the major companies will have absolutely NO incentive to be any more helpful, useful, or responsive than they have in the recent past. Nor will they have any reason to keep prices competitive.

Please do not deregulate to favor the big Telecom providers. Support local innovation and competition. My business depends on your making the right decision.

Thank you,

Lawrence Snyder